

**MINUTES**  
**LEXINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**April 22, 2003**

Lexington County Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, April 22, 2003, in Council Chambers, beginning at 4:30 p.m. Chairman Davis presided; Mr. Wilkerson gave the invocation; Mr. Carrigg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members attending:	George H. Smokey Davis	John W. Carrigg, Jr.
	Bruce E. Rucker	William C. Billy Derrick
	Jacob R. Wilkerson	Bobby C. Keisler
	Johnny W. Jeffcoat	Joseph W. Joe Owens
	M. Todd Cullum	

Also attending: Art Brooks, County Administrator; Larry Porth, Finance Director/Deputy County Administrator; Katherine Doucett, Personnel Director/Deputy County Administrator; Jeff Anderson, County Attorney; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

**Employee Recognition - Art Brooks, County Administrator** - Mr. Brooks noted two articles appearing in the COUNTY FOCUS magazine about the county. Lexington County was awarded the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation 2002 Certificate of Safety Achievement award; the county reduced illnesses and injuries by 40% between 2001 and 2002. He recognized Ed Salyer, Risk Manager and Ron Farr, Safety/Training Coordinator and expressed his appreciation to them for helping all the departments in the safety area.

Mr. Brooks stated that also appearing in the magazine was an article on the County's Landscape Ordinance attaining the Golden Acorn award. He stated that Charlie Compton, Tammy Coghill and Rhett Bickley were featured in the article about the ordinance. He added that these employees were recognized previously for receiving this award.

Mr. Brooks stated that David Havird, Heavy Equipment Operator II, Public Works, was commended for his work as well as Tommy Price, Drainage Maintenance Supervisor, Public Works, at the 321 landfill. A contractor who required the work of these employees expressed his appreciation for their professionalism and assistance.

Ms. Linda Matthews, Temporary Tax Clerk/Cashier, Treasurer's office, was commended by a local attorney for assisting him and going beyond the call of duty to help him resolve a matter that involved Linda contacting several county offices.

**Presentation of Resolutions - Councilman Jeffcoat - Mr. Steven Mungo; Dr. George Fann -**

Mr. Jeffcoat stated that Mr. Mungo and Dr. Fann served on the Health Services District Board and had done an outstanding job for Lexington County in providing health services for all the citizens. He stated that quite a bit of expansion took place while these two gentlemen were there, they were both directly and indirectly responsible for just about all the branch facilities as well as the expansions at the main campus on 378. Mr. Jeffcoat stated that the county was very thankful and very grateful for what these gentlemen have done and it was only appropriate to present them with a token of appreciation. Mr. Jeffcoat expressed his personal appreciation to Mr. Mungo and Dr. Fann for all they have done for the county, the medical center, and the citizens of Lexington County and presented each of them with a framed resolution.

**Appointments - Central Midlands Council of Governments** - A motion was made by Mr. Jeffcoat and seconded by Mr. Carrigg that Mr. Lowell C. Spires, Jr., be reappointed.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion.

Mr. Owens stated that this was a personnel matter and he would like to discuss it in executive session.

Mr. Davis stated that the individual was not paid by the county and Council had not discussed appointments in executive session in the past; there was certainly the right to discuss it in open session.

Mr. Owens stated that Mr. Spires has spent eight and one-half years on Central Midlands, he was appointed in 1995, the limitations are nine years, if he is appointed again for a three year term that will exceed, by far, the nine years. He stated that Mr. Spires is also serving on six other commissions or boards, he was taken to court by this County for serving on two. The new agreement with the COG indicates six elected officials and four citizen appointees. Mr. Owens stated that right now, the County Administrator is serving as number six and he should be the fourth citizen, inasmuch as he is not elected. He stated that there really is no vacancy to fill. Mr. Owens stated that it was his position that any appointment to any board should be non-controversial and we have some people who have in excess of 100 names that oppose this appointment and he did as well.

Mr. Jeffcoat stated that he believed it was three terms, he did not think it was nine years, it was three terms that you could be appointed to. Mr. Spires has been appointed twice, this will be his third term.

Mr. Owens stated that may be the letter of the law, but the spirit of the law is certainly being violated here because its nine years, three terms; he spent two and one-half years to fill an uncompleted term, he's served two other terms, so that was eight and one-half years and since the terms are three years a piece, that would be nine years and he will be serving eleven and one-half, plus there's no place on there; look at your new COG agreement, you're supposed to have

six elected officials and four citizens, so there's really no place on there; that's the agreement we signed.

Mr. Wilkerson stated it was not a personnel matter, but some of the things Mr. Owens has brought up needed clarification from the County Attorney; he did not want anything to be illegal and he did not know if it was or wasn't.

A motion was made by Mr. Derrick and seconded by Mr. Owens to table the motion.

Mr. Carrigg asked the purpose in tabling the nomination.

Mr. Wilkerson stated that he did not know if Council needed to table the nomination or just get some answers to some of the questions.

Mr. Derrick called for a point of order; discussion was out of order.

Mr. Davis stated that he was exactly right. Mr. Davis called for the vote.

Vote on motion to table:

In Favor:	Mr. Derrick	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Rucker	Mr. Wilkerson
	Mr. Keisler	
Opposed:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Jeffcoat
	Mr. Carrigg	Mr. Cullum

Mr. Wilkerson asked if it would be appropriate to get advice from the County Attorney so that questions could be answered.

A motion was made by Mr. Carrigg and seconded by Mr. Jeffcoat that Council go into Executive Session to receive a legal briefing.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Carrigg
	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Rucker
	Mr. Derrick	Mr. Wilkerson
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Cullum	

Mr. Davis reconvened Council in open session. Mr. Davis asked if any motions were to be made.

A motion was made by Mr. Carrigg and seconded by Mr. Jeffcoat that the motion be brought off the table.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Carrigg
	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Cullum
Opposed	Mr. Owens	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Derrick	Mr. Wilkerson

Mr. Rucker



**Bids/Purchases/RFPs** - A motion was made by Mr. Rucker and seconded by Mr. Jeffcoat that the following bids be approved:

**Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and Components - Emergency Preparedness** - Staff recommended the purchase of Mine Safety Appliance Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and related components through Newton's Fire and Safety Equipment, Inc., in the amount of \$27,527.85 including tax. This is a sole source purchase.

**Adult and Juvenile Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services - Drug Court** - Staff solicited and advertised for qualified certified agencies to provide a drug and alcohol treatment program for adult and juvenile offenders. Three bids were received. Staff recommended the bid be awarded to The Alternative as being the low bidder. Estimated annual costs for the Adult Treatment Program is \$59,400.00; Juvenile Treatment Program is \$58,320.00 for a total annual cost of \$117,720.00.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion.

Mr. Derrick stated that since the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and Components were recommended as a sole source purchase, he wondered if anyone had researched what was paid on the last purchase of such equipment.

Ms. Sheila Fulmer, Procurement Manager, responded that she did not know what the cost of the last purchase was, but the company had not increased the price above the last purchase.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Rucker
	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Derrick
	Mr. Wilkerson	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Carrigg	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Cullum	

**Grant - Law Enforcement - Gang Resistance Education and Training Program (GREAT)** - Chief Tim James stated that the GREAT Grant is 100% funded through the ATF. He stated that the funds would be used for the training of School Resource Officers so they can go into the schools and educate the students on resisting gang activity, resisting gun violence, etc. He stated that the training was something they would want their officers to get, this way the funds through the grant would provide the means.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilkerson and seconded by Mr. Rucker that the grant be approved.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Wilkerson
	Mr. Rucker	Mr. Derrick

Mr. Carrigg  
Mr. Jeffcoat  
Mr. Cullum

Mr. Keisler  
Mr. Owens

**Chairman's Report - Councilman Keisler - Proposed Holiday** - Mr. Keisler stated that he had received a request from a gentleman requesting that the County observe Confederate Memorial Day as a holiday. Mr. Keisler asked that the proposal be considered during the budget process.

Mr. Davis stated that staff found a web site which had a list of holidays that Council might want to also consider during the budget process.

**FY 03-04 Budget** - Mr. Davis stated that he hoped members were continuing to study the budget data received at the last meeting.

**Administrator's Report - County Auction** - Mr. Brooks reported that the County Auction will be held on Thursday, May 22.

**I-20/SC 6 Interchange** - Mr. Brooks stated that the I-20/SC 6 Interchange improvements have been let to contract and construction signs would be going up shortly. He reported this project would involve widening SC 6 from Railroad Avenue to past Two Notch Road, then tapering to two lanes.

Mr. Davis asked if there was a timetable.

Mr. Brooks responded that the bridge over I-20 would have to be widened and it would take in excess of a year; he did not have an exact timetable but would try to get one.

**Beulah Church Road/Priceville Road Traffic Signal** - Mr. Brooks stated that Mr. Derrick made a request which was followed up by a letter from Chairman Davis to install a traffic signal at the intersection of Beulah Church Road and Priceville Road. He stated that apparently the initial request was reviewed without all the data; with the submission of the county's 9-1-1 calls for the past few years, the request has been restudied and a traffic signal is going to be installed.

Mr. Derrick added that poles were being installed today.

**HUD Program - \$1 Home Program - Tammy Coghill, Director, Community and Economic Development** - Ms. Coghill stated that the program is only two years old and staff became aware of it last week when asked to participate in the program. She stated that HUD has a number of properties they have financed through the years and some of those properties become available through foreclosure or other reasons. Under the dollar home program, the units initially go onto the market to be sold; if not sold within six months, the dollar home program kicks in and units of local government actually have the opportunity to purchase single family homes for one dollar. Then, the expectation is that the homes be renovated and turned around for first time home buyers who are eligible for the program. If the unit of local government does not

participate or take part in the program, then for the next 10 days HUD has an officer next door/teacher next door program in which police officers or teachers can purchase the home at what typically ends up being half of the appraised value. After that, if neither of those programs kicks in, then the home goes back onto the market. Ms. Coghill stated that staff became aware of the program because a specific house in the southern part of Lexington County is within the 10 day window for the local government to pick up. She stated the opportunities include either purchasing the home and placing it into part of the local government housing rehab program; Lexington County does not have a formal rehab program, but was something Council could consider, or making the house available to a non-profit group that is involved in housing rehab and have them resell it. Ms. Coghill stated that staff was approached by a group that has been participating in the HUD dollar program and they have offered to purchase the house from the county for a dollar, cover the closing cost and renovate it.

A motion was made by Mr. Derrick and seconded by Mr. Owens that the County participate in the HUD Dollar Program.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion.

Mr. Carrigg asked, if the County purchased the house for a dollar, what is our obligation at that point with the house.

Ms. Coghill responded that as a unit of government, renovate it and sell it under the guidelines of the HUD program or sell it to an eligible non-profit organization.

Mr. Carrigg asked what was the eligible, non-profit in this case.

Ms. Coghill replied, staff has been approached by the Affordable Homes Group out of New Jersey; the organization was working in multiple states. She stated that the county could choose anyone they wanted to work with.

Mr. Carrigg asked Ms. Coghill, eligible, are these like HUD approved organizations?

Ms. Coghill responded that they do not have to be certified, but they would have to ensure that as they repair the home and then sell it that the home buyer is eligible at the 80% median level, first time home buyers.

Mr. Carrigg asked what was the county's obligation if the renovation organization did not live up to its promise to the county?

Ms. Coghill stated that staff was still looking into this; once the house is sold to an organization, that organization has agreed to adhere to HUD's regulations and they're in the "hot seat" for doing so, and for reporting and ensuring that the house is sold to an eligible home buyer.



Mr. Carrigg asked, the county can be relieved of its obligation once the house is transferred.

Ms. Coghill responded, that was her understanding. The organization would do all the reporting to HUD.

Mr. Carrigg stated that this was his concern; he wanted to make sure the county did not pick up any liability down the road.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Derrick
	Mr. Owens	Mr. Rucker
	Mr. Wilkerson	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Carrigg
	Mr. Cullum	

**Budget Amendments** - The following Budget Amendment Resolutions were approved:

Booking of a \$20,000 grant to the Joint Water and Sewer Commission for the construction of an eight-inch water line to provide safe drinking water to Martin's Crossing near the Town of Gilbert;

Transferring funds from the Gas, Fuel and Oil Contingency account to the Engineering/Design and Construction cost of the Oak Grove Magistrate's Office Building.

**Approval of Minutes - Meetings of March 25 and April 8, 2003** - A motion was made by Mr. Wilkerson and seconded by Mr. Jeffcoat that the Minutes of March 25 and April 8, 2003 be approved as submitted.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Wilkerson
	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Rucker
	Mr. Derrick	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Carrigg	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Cullum	

**Ordinances - Ordinance 03-2 - Building Codes Ordinance Amendments - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading by Title** - A motion was made by Mr. Rucker and seconded by Mr. Carrigg that Ordinance 03-2 receive first reading by title.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Rucker
	Mr. Carrigg	Mr. Derrick

Mr. Wilkerson	Mr. Keisler
Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Owens
Mr. Cullum	

**Ordinance 03-3 - FY 03–04 General Fund and Non-General Fund Budgets - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading by Title** - A motion was made by Mr. Rucker and seconded by Mr. Derrick that Ordinance 03-3 receive first reading by title.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Rucker
	Mr. Derrick	Mr. Wilkerson
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Carrigg
	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Cullum	

**Zoning Amendments - Zoning Text Amendment T03-02 - Article 12, Chapter 2, Section 122.00 - Creation of Board - 3<sup>rd</sup> & Final Reading** - A motion was made by Mr. Jeffcoat and seconded by Mr. Rucker that Zoning Text Amendment T03-02 be given third and final reading.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Jeffcoat
	Mr. Rucker	Mr. Derrick
	Mr. Wilkerson	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Carrigg	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Cullum	

**Committee Reports - Planning and Administration, B. Rucker, Chairman - Zoning Map Amendment M03-01 - Jamestowne Court - 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** - Mr. Rucker stated that the Planning and Administration Committee convened on Tuesday, April 8 to consider Zoning Map Amendment M03-01 - Jamestowne Court filed by Tammy Coghill. Current classification is Local (L); the request is to reclassify the road Residential Local Four (RL-4) from the ID/RD boundary line southward to the end of the cul-de-sac.

The public hearing was held on March 11, 2003, at which time a number of residents requested that the entire road be reclassified RL-4 to protect the neighborhood from traffic and commercial development.

It was explained that the entire road could not be reclassified because of development already planned and permitted.

The Planning Commission considered the amendment on March 20, 2003 and voted to

recommend that the request be approved.

It is the recommendation of the Planning and Administration Committee that Council proceed with second reading approval of Zoning Map Amendment M03-01.

A motion was made by Mr. Rucker and seconded by Mr. Carrigg that the Committee Report be adopted and Zoning Map Amendment M03-01 receive second reading approval.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Rucker
	Mr. Carrigg	Mr. Derrick
	Mr. Wilkerson	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Cullum	

**Public Works, B. Derrick Chairman - Road Policy - Requested Change** - Mr. Derrick stated that he was late getting to the committee meeting because of a medical problem and had requested that Mr. Owens present the reports.

Mr. Owens reported that the committee considered a staff request to change the road maintenance policy in order to allow staff to determine whether a road would be accepted into the road maintenance program with approval by the County Administrator.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilkerson and seconded by Mr. Derrick that the road policy be changed as recommended by staff.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Wilkerson
	Mr. Derrick	Mr. Rucker
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Jeffcoat
	Mr. Carrigg	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Cullum	

**Proposed Road Closing - Portion of Longleaf Court** - Mr. Owens stated that the Public Works Committee also considered a request by Mr. Frank Corley to close a portion of Longleaf Court. Mr. Corley is also to pay all legal expenses. Mr. Owens stated that the Committee voted to recommend that Council concur with proceeding with the legal process to close a portion of Longleaf Court.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilkerson and seconded by Mr. Derrick that the Committee Report be adopted and that Council concur with proceeding with the legal process to close a portion of

Longleaf Court.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Wilkerson
	Mr. Derrick	Mr. Rucker
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Jeffcoat
	Mr. Carrigg	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Cullum	

**Correction of Item on Agenda - Zoning Map Amendment M03-01** - Mr. Davis noted that Zoning Map Amendment M03, shown on the Agenda as M03-10, should be M03-01, the Jamestowne Court, second reading.

**Presentations - Mr. Dwight Davis, Chairman, Lexington Soil and Water Conservation District - Update on Programs** - Mr. Davis stated that Council has the wisdom and foresight to see how important conservation is to everyone and Council has supported them in their effort and he appreciated that. He introduced Mr. Bill Melvin, District Manager, Doug Diederick, District Conservationist (rural conservation), Jim Wilson, District Conservationist (urban conservation). Mr. Davis stated that over half of their customers were now in the urban area and they had to modify and change to adapt to the times; Rhett Bickley, Commissioner.

Mr. Davis stated that last year they assisted 413 rural and urban customers in solving natural resource problems relating to soil erosion, manure management, water quality and water quantity issues. We assisted county government with subdivision erosion and storm water control issues with John Fachtel's staff at Lloyd Subdivision on McCartha Road and Whitehall Subdivision on Tram Road. We assisted Mr. Charlie Compton's staff with best management for storm water detention ponds and provided GIS data for his department and we also worked with Hidden Valley Developers on a total plan concept including open space, buffers, lake development and cluster housing. Outside of government, with the schools, we laid out nature trails and outdoor classrooms for natural resource education at Lake Murray Elementary and Oak Grove Elementary schools. We've trained teachers at the district level who teach about water quality following the South Carolina Education Core Curriculum and we also provided point and non-point source exhibits to school classes and groups at White Knoll High School, Oak Grove Elementary and the Lexington Sportsman's Club annual fishing day for students and the Saluda Shoals Park. We're staying busy and our work is changing and our main purpose is to thank you all for being partners with us and supporting us because it doesn't happen across the state; apparently a lot of county governments do not have the wisdom and foresight that you all do and we do appreciate that. I am not here asking for money this time; when things do get better I'll come back, I promise. I want to invite all of you to attend our monthly meeting, the third Tuesday of every month at 4:30 p.m. over at the USDA Center right across from the Highway Department on Park Road. Also mark down on your calendars, we're having an ag tour, we rented one of those fancy tour buses, and we're going to take County Council and the County

Delegation on an A Number One ag tour, eats and everything. So you all put that down on your calendars, June 20. I want to give each one of you a copy of our long range plan and thank you all once again for supporting this conservation district.

Mr. Davis thanked Mr. Davis and his team for the good work they do.

**Mr. Steve Camp, Columbia Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau - Annual Update**  
- Mr. Davis introduced Mr. Camp as the Director of the CVB, however, Mr. Camp indicated that he is actually the president and CEO of the Midlands Regional Convention Center Authority which is the oversight organization for the Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Regional Sports Council, the Convention Center and the Visitors' Center.

Mr. Camp expressed his appreciation for being allowed the time to share the annual report of the Midlands Regional Convention Center Authority. While the funding agreement that documents the collaborative effort that makes the new convention center possible requires that I share this report with you, I consider it a privilege to have this opportunity. Last year we stood before you and we made promises, promises we intended to keep and promises we did keep. Your financial assistance to our mission is a major reason we are able to deliver this positive report today and for that support we thank you. 2002 was an interesting year for the Authority and for the Convention and Visitors Bureau. It was a time to reorganize, to reinforce and refocus our staff and their objectives. It was a time to develop a team concept which I think we've been very successful in doing. We have identified and concentrated on realistic markets for our region in that we did not want to waste time or money chasing events or groups that weren't interested in our area or the assets of our area were not suited to their needs. We provided our staff with appropriate and quality collateral materials to assist them in their marketing effort. We worked to increase the community's confidence in our efforts and that's extremely important to us and we converted those efforts into results and I'm here today to quantify the results of our efforts.

We go back to 2001 and in 2001 the Convention and Visitors Bureau booked a total of 11,936 rooms in future years. At 2002, the sales staff booked 68,731 room nights for future years. 10,856 of those room nights were booked by sports council business. I put a little asterisk by the 68,000 number because 35,000 of those rooms were booked with one group, the International Churches of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Convocations will be held in our region, five of the next 10 years, that's a huge group of people and it will have an affect not only in Lexington County, but in Richland County, the City and we expect to do a very good job for those people and they have agreed to be here for five of the next 10 years, so every other year for the next 10 years, a huge piece of business. But I tell you that because next year if I come back here and we don't have 68,000 rooms booked you don't get a 35,000 pop every year, but I sure hope we come close to that, but even if you take that number of rooms out of the 68,000, it's down to 33,000, that's still represents a 282% increase over 2001. But more important to you, I suspect to the region, is an estimated economic impact of well over \$27 million and we do this on a budget, and I'm not here to ask for money either, but we are here to tell you that we have done this and accomplished this on an operating budget that is on the average about \$1.5 million a year less than some of our

regional competitors.

Our visitors center traffic is up 13% in 2002 over 2001 and a new website that we brought online last August is averaging 14,000 visits per month. On that web site is everything in the region; Lexington County, Richland County, the City of Columbia, all the attractions, accommodations, restaurants and everything and I asked today to clarify with the staff what is a visit versus a hit. Well if I wanted to give you hit numbers, it might be five or six times this 14,000 because this means this is someone coming to the entire page and looking at the page and as they pick specific areas, then those are hits and there may be on a visit there could be five or six, depends on what they're looking for so this 14,000 number is still significant, I think, and for your information, in March we went well over 20,000 visits during the month of March. I have no explanation other than we suspect, and over time we may be able to figure this out, but we suspect it was Masters business and people inquiring, even in the Columbia area and Lexington County, Richland County and Columbia, how they might could get hotel rooms or where they might could eat and hopefully they got the information. We're proud of that web page and we think they are getting the information they need.

So what will we do in 2003? We're going to continue to build our staff and to strengthen the focus of that staff. We will strive to increase our level of service and our level of accountability to you and the other citizens of this region. We will fine tune a strategy for adding the convention center to this mix of regional assets that we have and believe me, when we are out selling this community, this region, we're not just selling the convention center, we're selling every single aspect and every single asset that exists in the Midlands Region of South Carolina. We will strive to establish this region as a destination for meetings and conventions, for sporting events and for leisure travel. We will continue to work to strengthen the confidence of our funding partners, you here today, by attracting business and attention to the region and by making a difference. We will produce results that enhance the economic vitality of Lexington County and the entire region. I recognize your agenda is full and your time is short but I close by offering to answer any questions you might have and to thank you again for allowing me this opportunity to speak this afternoon and for the support that you give us.

Mr. Carrigg stated, a lot of people hear Columbia Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau, but you also book hotel rooms in Lexington County.

Mr. Camp stated, absolutely.

Mr. Carrigg stated that he knew the impact was not divided by county, city, etc., but he knew in his district there were a huge number of hotels.

Mr. Camp stated a case in point would be the South Carolina Harley Owners Group that will be here in October, it will be headquartered at the Sheraton, but he suspected they would be staying in a variety of hotels in the area; he thought the International Churches of our Lord Jesus Christ in August would be everywhere, they may be up to Newberry, but they were going to be looking

for places to stay; Jehovah Witnesses will be here in July and they are going to be in both Lexington and Richland Counties, the City and wherever they can find hotel rooms. He stated that when the convention center comes on line they were looking for incremental business, they were looking for new groups that haven't been here, that don't currently come to this region and as they fill up the convention center and it fills up whatever hotels are appropriate it begins to push that business even further out and so everyone benefits even though that convention center physically is in downtown Columbia the positive economic impact of that facility that you have supported with your funding should have no trouble reaching across the river into Lexington County and up to Harbison; if we do our job, everybody should benefit.

Mr. Carrigg stated that when he served on the CVB Board of Directors they received a summary that included booked business, lost business, explanation. He asked if that was still prepared.

Mr. Camp responded, yes; they share that monthly with the advisory marketing committee.

Mr. Carrigg asked Mr. Camp to forward that information to Ms. Black so she can send it to Council.

Mr. Camp replied that he would be happy to. He stated that he hoped in time they would be able to put together additional information that may be useful to Council that identifies how much increased business is coming to Lexington County. He asked that everyone keep in mind that when he talked about room nights booked, that was into the future. He stated that they try to take a very conservative approach as to what those numbers are. I told you 35,000 rooms over 10 years for the International Churches. If we used their figures we would have probably been talking about 50 or 60,000 rooms over 10 years, but we try to be realistic and then the important figure though will be as these events do come to the region, then it's the pick up of rooms that's really the important figure that they were all concerned about because then we can put multipliers to those pickups and come close to an accepted number of what economic impact is actually produced.

Mr. Davis urged Mr. Camp to keep up the good work.

**Ms. Ursula Anderson, 115 Branham View Road, Lexington, SC - Citizen Appointee Process**  
- The primary purpose of my addressing Council today pertains to the reappointment of Mr. Butch Spires as a citizen representative to the Central Midlands Council of Governments. Mr. Spires' current term expires on June 15, 2003. It is the utmost desire of our group of citizens that the Lexington County Council not reappoint Mr. Spires as a citizen representative on the COG. We also do not wish for Mr. Spires to serve past his current end date of June 15.

I am presenting to Council a petition containing over 100 signatures by concerned citizens of Lexington County opposing the reappointment of Mr. Spires. Our group of citizens believes that Mr. Spires has not satisfactorily fulfilled his role as a citizen representative. Rather than being receptive to the needs and ideas of citizens, it appears that Mr. Spires has devoted his time and

energy to placating the needs of certain political entities and business interests.

Mr. Spires serves on five other boards and commissions - the Regional Transit Authority, which he chairs, the Midlands Regional Convention Center Authority, the Wil-Lou Gray Opportunity school, the Columbia Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Saluda River Alliance. Additionally, Spires is a regional manager at Waste Management. It is through this position that Mr. Spires negotiates transport contracts by acting as a Liaison between Waste Management and Lexington County Council. The potential for conflict of interest clearly runs high by continuing to appoint Spires as a citizen representative on that COG.

By the time Mr. Spires' current term expires in mid-June, he would have served three terms on the COG. He was originally appointed on January 9, 1995, and then reappointed June of 97 and June 2000. According to Section 2-132 of the Lexington County Code, "Members appointed to any boards, committees and commissions shall serve no more than three consecutive terms." To reappoint Mr. Spires for a fourth term would clearly be in direct violation of this ordinance.

Upon searching the county records, it appears that Mr. Spires does not even own any property in Lexington County. The Bay Street address in Cayce that Council has on file for Mr. Spires shows ownership of that property under another individual's name. One would think that in order to be a Lexington County appointed citizen representative, one would have to actually own property in Lexington County.

A final point I would like to make regarding Mr. Spires' reappointment involves Section 2-63 of the Lexington County Code - Abstention - Any member of the Council not voting due to potential conflict of interest shall comply with the provisions of the South Carolina Ethics Act, and no member shall vote on any matter that would be a violation of the South Carolina Ethics Act. As thus, any councilman that has a business relationship either directly or indirectly with Mr. Spires should abstain from voting if such a relationship exists.

On a separate note, I am also presenting to Council a second petition containing over 100 signatures by concerned citizens of Lexington County supporting the appointment of myself as citizen representative on the COG. I possess a Bachelor of Science degree cum laude and have over 15 years experience in the real estate industry. Also, over the course of the last 11 months, I have devoted a great deal of time and effort into reviewing files at the COG and the DOT. I have attended all the various COG meetings, Board, Transportation Subcommittee, and Technical Advisory Committee meetings. In order to better understand the inter-relationship between the various entities, I have also attended other meetings such as County Council, DOT Commissioner and Federal Highway Administration. My residence is in Lexington and my appointment would help fill the void that exists in terms of the lack of citizen representation for the high growth area of Lexington. Currently there are two citizen representatives from the Irmo area, one from Cayce and one from West Columbia. Finally, and most importantly, I have and will continue to listen to the concerns of my fellow citizens and conduct myself in a fair and equitable manner. Thank you for letting me address this Council.



Mr. Davis stated that Council appreciated Mrs. Anderson's presentation.

**Old Business/New Business - Proposed Ordinance - Agricultural Operations** - Mr. Owens stated that he had provided each Council member a copy of an ordinance under consideration by Horry County and requested that it be placed on the Agenda for the May 13 meeting. He added that this involved the "hog farm" legislation.

There was discussion about placing the proposed ordinance in Committee, whether to proceed with first reading on May 13, and the action that may be taken by the General Assembly.

Mr. Carrigg asked if there was a problem going ahead with first reading.

Mr. Davis stated that the legal advisor indicated that it could be handled under new business.

A motion was made by Mr. Owens and seconded by Mr. Jeffcoat that first reading of a proposed ordinance dealing with agricultural operations be approved.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion.

Mr. Derrick stated that he was concerned that Council not make an emotional decision as the State Legislature did on the exact same thing; let's do it right if we're going to do it and not mess it up. He cautioned Council that Lexington is a very agricultural county and he was as upset with the state legislators as anybody, but let's don't cut off our nose to spite our face; when it comes to agriculture let's make sure to do it right if we're going to do it at all.

Mr. Owens stated that he did not think that anyone who did not have an ulterior motive with respect to bringing hog farms into Lexington County would have heartburn with the proposal.

Mr. Derrick commented that he thought he read in the proposed ordinance there were live growing operations addressed and we have a tremendous poultry industry up in my area and everybody seems to be very happy with it, so let's just be careful with it.

Mr. Jeffcoat stated the reason he was voting in favor of the proposal is exactly that, to put it on the Agenda and fine tune it or do away with it, but at least we will be able to discuss it in the committee meeting. He stated that he agreed with Mr. Derrick that Council did not need to make any "knee jerk" decisions, but he would like to see Council discuss it.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Rucker
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Carrigg
	Mr. Cullum	
Opposed:	Mr. Derrick	

Mr. Wilkerson left the meeting during the Presentations because of other commitments; he was not present when the vote was taken.

**Red Bank Collection Station** - Mr. Keisler stated that he had received several complaints about the Red Bank collection station in that they arrive on Monday morning and are turned away and unable to dispose of their garbage and/or trash. Mr. Keisler asked if this should be placed on the agenda for discussion.

Mr. Davis stated that the matter would be assigned to the Public Works Committee.

**Executive Session/Legal Briefing** - A motion was made by Mr. Owens and seconded by Mr. Carrigg that Council go into executive session to receive the legal briefing and discuss contractual and personnel matters.

In Favor:	Mr. Davis	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Carrigg	Mr. Derrick
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Jeffcoat
	Mr. Cullum	

Mr. Rucker was not present when the vote was taken.

Mr. Davis reconvened Council in open session.

**Mattes Requiring a Vote as a Result of Executive Session** - Mr. Davis stated there were no motions to be considered as a result of executive session; Council received the legal briefing and discussed contractual and personnel matters in executive session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy K. Black  
Clerk

George H. Smokey Davis  
Chairman